

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4213–4254.

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1590–1603, and S. Res. 203. **Pages S4249–50**

Measures Reported:

S. 697, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to reauthorize and modernize that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4249**

Measures Passed:

American Eagle Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 203, designating June 20, 2015, as “American Eagle Day” and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States. **Page S4254**

Measures Considered:

National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of H.R. 1735, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S4222–47

Adopted:

McCain (for Hatch/Inhofe) Further Modified Amendment No. 1911 (to Amendment No. 1456), to study the impact of commissary privatization prior to initiating a pilot program and to require a report on the Department of Defense definition of and policy regarding software sustainment.

Pages S4222, S4240–41, S4244–45, S4246–47

McCain Amendment No. 1456 (to Amendment No. 1463), to require additional information supporting long-range plans for construction of naval vessels. **Pages S4222, S4247**

McCain Amendment No. 1463, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S4222, S4247**

Chair sustained a point of order that the following amendments were not germane post-cloture, and the amendments thus fell: **Page S4247**

Reed (for Blumenthal) Modified Amendment No. 1564 (to Amendment No. 1463), to enhance protections accorded to servicemembers and their spouses.

Pages S4222, S4247

Fischer/Booker Amendment No. 1825 (to Amendment No. 1463), to authorize appropriations for national security aspects of the Merchant Marine for fiscal years 2016 and 2017. **Pages S4222, S4247**

Reed (for Durbin) Modified Amendment No. 1559 (to Amendment No. 1463), to prohibit the award of Department of Defense contracts to inverted domestic corporations. **Pages S4222, S4247**

McCain (for Paul) Modified Amendment No. 1543 (to Amendment No. 1463), to strengthen employee cost savings suggestions programs within the Federal Government. **Pages S4222, S4247**

Markey Amendment No. 1645 (to Amendment No. 1463), to express the sense of Congress that exports of crude oil to United States allies and partners should not be determined to be consistent with the national interest if those exports would increase energy prices in the United States for American consumers or businesses or increase the reliance of the United States on imported oil. **Pages S4222, S4247**

Cornyn Amendment No. 1486 (to Amendment No. 1463), to require reporting on energy security issues involving Europe and the Russian Federation, and to express the sense of Congress regarding ways the United States could help vulnerable allies and partners with energy security. **Pages S4222, S4247**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 84 yeas to 14 nays (Vote No. 214), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the bill. **Page S4247**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding rule XXII, the time count as if cloture was invoked at 10 p.m., on Wednesday, June 17, 2015. **Page S4242**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all time during morning business and the adjournment of the Senate count post-cloture on the bill. **Page S4254**

PORTS Act Referral—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that S. 1519, to amend the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947 to address slowdowns, strikes, and lock-outs occurring at ports in the United States, be discharged from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and be referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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Messages from the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S4250–51

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S4251–53

Additional Statements:

Page S4249

Amendments Submitted:

Page S4253

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S4253–54

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—214)

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 5:05 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2015. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4254.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S FISCAL CHALLENGES

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Congressional Budget Office's analysis of the Federal government's deepening fiscal challenges, after receiving testimony from Keith Hall, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION OVERSIGHT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Consumer Product Safety Commission, after receiving testimony from Elliot F. Kaye, Chairman, and Robert S. Adler, Ann Marie Buerkle, Joseph P. Mohorovic, and Marietta S. Robinson, each a Commissioner, all of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY OVERSIGHT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine

the Environmental Protection Agency's final rule to regulate disposal of coal combustion residuals from electric utilities, after receiving testimony from Danny Gray, Charah, Inc., Louisville, Kentucky; Michael Kezar, South Texas Electric Cooperative, Nursery, on behalf of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association; Alexandra Dapolito Dunn, Environmental Council of the States, Washington, D.C.; Nancy Cave, South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, Georgetown; and Frank Holleman, Southern Environmental Law Center, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

NOMINATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Gayle Smith, of Ohio, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

GOVERNING THROUGH GOAL SETTING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine governing through goal setting, focusing on enhancing the economic and national security of America, including S. Res. 199, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding establishing a National Strategic Agenda, after receiving testimony from former Senator Joe Lieberman, former Utah Governor Jon Huntsman, Mclean, Virginia, Andrew Tisch, Loews Corporation, New York, New York, and Andrea Hogan, Merchants Metals LLC, Atlanta, Georgia, all on behalf of No Labels.

NOMINATION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Carol Fortine Ochoa, of Virginia, to be Inspector General of the General Services Administration, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on evaluating accreditation's role in ensuring quality, after receiving testimony from Peter T. Ewell, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, Boulder, Colorado; George Pruitt, Thomas Edison State College, Trenton, New Jersey; and Albert C. Gray, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools, and Anne D. Neal, American Council of Trustees and Alumni, both of Washington, D.C.